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From Saturday December 23. to Tuesday December 26. 1710.

Westminster, December 23.

HER Majesty came this Day to the House of Peers, and being in Her Royal Robes seated on the Throne, with the usual Solemnity, Mr. *Davis*, Deputy Gentleman-Usher of the Black Rod, was sent with a Message from Her Majesty to the House of Commons, requiring their Attendance in the House of Peers. The Commons being come thither accordingly, Her Majesty was pleased to give the Royal Assent to

An Act for Granting an Aid to Her Majesty, to be raised by a Land-Tax in Great Britain, *for the Service of the Year* 1711. And

An Act to oblige Ships coming from Places infected, more effectually to perform their Quarentine.

At the Court at St. James's, December 23.

PRESENT,

The Queen's most Excellent Majesty in Council.

SHERIFFS appointed for

Leicester,	*Thomas Pochin*, Jun. Esq;
Flint,	*John Lloyd* of *Dwining*, Esq;

Cologne, December 26. *N. S.* The Palatin Troops that passed the Rhine the 12th Instant at this Place, Mulheim and Bonn, continue their March towards their respective Quarters in the Palatinate; and the other Troops belonging to the Elector Palatine that are to Winter in the Dutchies of Bergue and Juliers, are likewise got into their Quarters; as are also the Prussians that are to remain at Aix la Chapelle, and several Towns belonging to this Electorate. Prince Eugene of Savoy arrived the 16th at Rasfeldt, where he was complimented in the Name of the Elector Palatin by Lieutenant-General Vehlen, and the next Day Dined with his Electoral Highness at Benrath, a Castle belonging to that Prince, and in the Afternoon set out for Frankfort, in his way to Vienna. The French Parties continue very troublesom in this Neighbourhood, and rob all the Passengers that have the Misfortune to fall into their Hands, without having any Regard to their Passports. Our Letters from Ratisbon advise, that the Pope insisting to have a Nuncio at the Imperial Diet, on a Pretence that he has consented to refer the Differences between him and his Imperial Majesty, on the Account of Ferrara and Comachio, to the Determination of that Assembly; the Ministers of the Protestant Potentates have declared against it, conceiving the Pope's Design is not so much to settle that Affair, as to Interest himself in the Disputes that have been raised on the Account of Religion, and to obstruct such Measures as shall be taken for their further Security at the next Treaty for a General Peace.

Hague, December 30. *N. S.* The Duke of Marlborough proposed to be going from hence the 27th or 28th Instant, and to lie on Board the Yacht at Helvoetsluys, that he might not lose the first Opportunity of a favourable Wind; but the Tydes have fallen out at such Hours, that the Men of War cou'd not get out to Sea as soon as was intended, and the Winds have since continued so extreamly violent, as well as contrary, that his Grace has been advised not to remove from hence 'till there be an Appearance of fairer Weather. The Letters we have receiv'd by the two last Posts from Paris give us Accounts of a very unexpected turn of the Affairs of King Charles in Spain, by two Actions, which are said to have hapned the 9th and 10th Instant, entirely to the Disadvantage of the Allies. We have no particular Relations of what passed in those Engagements, but what we receive from the French themselves; who mention so many Circumstances from several Hands, and the Arrival of so many Couriers dispatch'd one after the other in Confirmation of their Success, as if they design'd to leave us no room to doubt but that our Army in Spain had suffer'd a considerable Misfortune. The Substance of what we have learn'd of this Matter is, that whilst General Staremberg was retiring towards Arragon with the Forces of his Catholick Majesty, Lieutenant-General Stanhope, who brought up the Rear, was posted with eight Battalions and two Regiments of Horse in Brihuega, a small Place about seventeen Leagues from Madrid. When this was observ'd by the Duke of Vendome, who followed us very near in our Retreat, he resolv'd to attack those Troops, and accordingly came up the 8th Instant with the Duke of Anjou's Army, and surrounded the Town on every side. Our Forces, whereof the Foot are said to have been British, under the Command of the Generals Stanhope, Carpenter and Wills, and the Horse, chiefly Foreigners, behav'd themselves with much Gallantry and Resolution; but the Enemy having, after a vigorous Defence, made large Breaches in the Walls, and forced some Retrenchments that had been thrown up behind them, and over-powered our Men with their superior Numbers, they then found themselves obliged to Capitulate, and were made Prisoners of War on the 9th. In the mean time General Staremberg having been informed that Brihuega was attacked, and of the Danger Mr. Stanhope was in, he detached three thousand Men of the best of his Troops to his Assistance, and, as it is said, followed with the rest of his Forces to support them, which brought both Armies to a general Engagement on the 10th. The Fight was very obstinate and bloody on both sides; and our Forces at first attacked the Foot of the Duke of Anjou's Army with so much Bravery and Success, that they put them into Confusion, and had a fair Prospect of winning the Day; but when the Duke of Vendome observed the Disorder they were in, he put himself at the Head of the Horse, and bore down upon our Infantry with such Violence, as put a stop to their Successs, and ended in the Defeat of our whole Army, together with the Loss of all their Baggage and Artillery. These Advices add, that General Staremberg was retiring with what Troops he cou'd get together by the way of Siquença, being closely pursued by the Enemy; and that Lieutenant-General Zuniga was arriv'd at Versailles, with a particular Relation of the whole Affair, which wou'd soon be published. This is what we have been able to collect out of the Publick News from France; but other Letters from thence give us reason to imagine that these Accounts are not entirely to be depended upon, since those Letters own, that the Duke of Anjou's Forces were not able to break the Confederate Foot; and that the Night coming on, both Armies were obliged